

3 drown at abandoned quarry

CHANNAHON, Ill. — Two young sisters drowned in an abandoned quarry during a weekend family picnic, and a friend of their mother drowned while trying to save them.

“In trying to get the two girls back to shore, it must have pulled him under, and they all drowned,” said Bud Colvert, battalion chief of the Joliet Fire Department.

Swimming is forbidden at the quarry, he said, estimating that 10 to 15 people have drowned there in the past 10 years.

Authorities said Sharon Reese, 9, and her sister, Monica Reese, 7, both of Joliet, were wading in shallow water in the quarry when they apparently went over a drop-off Saturday night. Willie Brown, 35, jumped in after them.

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Dec 2, 2024